



# News Letter

## WORLD SAFETY ORGANIZATION

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### *Brief Overview and Selection of Speakers from the* **WSO 29th WSO International Environment and Occupational Safety and Health Professional Development Symposium**

19-21 September 2016 | DoubleTree at Houston Hobby Airport | Houston, Texas, USA



#### National STEPS Network: Lessons from the US Upstream Industry

**Rick L. Ingram;** *National Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health; National STEPS Network; BP America Production Company; Houston, Texas, USA*

The National Service, Transmission, Exploration & Production Safety (STEPS) Network is an all-volunteer organization which was founded in 2003 in South Texas by OSHA and Industry in an attempt to reduce injuries and fatalities in that region. The effort was successful, and STEPS has continued to grow, currently including twenty-two independent regional networks serving twenty producing states. Eight of the networks have signed formal alliances with OSHA, and the National STEPS Network signed a formal Alliance with OSHA and NIOSH on December 2, 2014.

The National STEPS Network includes Operators and Contractors in the Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Product Transmission industry as equally valued members in partnership with OSHA, NIOSH, API, AESC, IADC, IPAA, other trade associations and educators across the country. The Network's goal is to serve all producing regions of the United States and to eventually share our philosophy internationally.



#### Port Authority of Houston: General Port Overview, Environmental Stewardship, and Port Security

**Leah Oberlin;** *Environmental Affairs Director, Port of Houston Authority, Houston, Texas, USA*

**General Port Overview:** An economic engine for the Houston region, the port supports the creation of more than 2.1 million nationwide jobs, and \$617 billion in economic impact across the nation. Its diverse cargo-handling facilities capabilities give it competitive market advantages in a worldwide marketplace. **Environmental Stewardship:** As a leader in environmental stewardship and sustainability, Port Houston considers its impact on the environment in every area of the organization, from air and water quality efforts to recycling and litter prevention, to educating its own employees, tenants and stakeholders about the importance of environmental awareness. **Port Security:** Since the events of 9/11, security has been a continually evolving priority for ports around the world.



## Strides in Ergonomics

**Stephen S. Austin;** *Safety Lead, Missile Defense Agency, Huntsville, Alabama, USA; Instructor, Safety Program, Texas A&M.*

The word Ergonomics came from the Greek derivative of “ergo” – work and nomos – “laws”. Better stated, Ergonomics can be simply defined as the study of work. Ergonomics more specifically is the science of designing the job to fit the worker, rather than physically forcing the worker’s body to fit the job. Ergonomics draws on a number of scientific disciplines including physiology, biomechanics, psychology, anthropometry, industrial hygiene, and kinesiology. How does this affect the employer or employee, by adapting tasks, work stations, tools, and equipment to fit the worker’s body in an attempt to eliminate stress and to prevent many potential serious disabling work related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD’s).



## Driving on Fumes: Lebanese Drivers Face Elevated Air Pollution Health Risks Inside of Cars

**Dr. Elias M. Choueiri, Dr. Georges M. Choueiri, and Dr. Bernard M. Choueiri;** *WSO National Office for Lebanon; Lebanese Association for Public Safety*

Pollution in general is a major issue in Lebanon and concerns every citizen of the country. There are many different forms of pollution affecting the Lebanese people, which are clouding the atmosphere and greatly harming everyone’s health.

According to a study by researchers at the American University of Beirut (AUB), about 93% of Beirut’s population is exposed to high levels of air pollution. Modes of transport are identified as the biggest contributors, exacerbated by all-day traffic jams and about 100,000 additional new and used cars being sold in the country every year. Lebanon’s rate of 434 motor vehicles per 100,000 people ranks #40 among the 192 countries analyzed.



## Accidents, Injuries, and Deaths: Measuring Perceptions of Personal Safety in Saudi Arabia’s Workplaces

**Majed Moosa;** *Lecturer, Department of Industrial Engineering, Jazan University; Saudi Arabia; Ph.D. candidate, Industrial Manufacturing Systems Engineering, University of Windsor, Windsor, Canada*

**Background:** Research indicates that workplace accidents are a worldwide concern, and the number of accidents is increasing. In rapidly developing countries like Saudi Arabia, safety issues are largely ignored and little are known about the causes. The aim of this study was to measure the personal safety perceptions of workers in Saudi Arabia in order to discover factors contributing to workplace accidents and to provide a basis for future research and for future workplace accident prevention.

**Methods:** To shed light on factors causing Saudi Arabian workplace accidents, a detailed survey concerning safety training, safety knowledge, safety motivation, safety compliance, and safety participation was sent to employees in different workplace sectors in Saudi Arabia. 72 participants responded.



## Death on the Farm

**David A. North**; *President, DNS Environmental; Casper, Wyoming, USA*

Agricultural jobs are the most dangerous in the world. Why aren't we talking about it?

Most farms, aren't subject to OSHA rules. Since 1976, the agency has not regulated farms with 10 or fewer workers. This represents the vast majority of American farms.

Unfortunately, farm safety is an issue rarely discussed outside of agricultural circles. Out of 335,000 workplace fatalities worldwide, over half occur in agriculture, according to the International Labour Organization. The particular hazards vary around the globe — in Sweden, livestock accidents are a major killer, while a number of Kenyan farmers have died from a toxic corn fungus — but the danger is a constant.



## Promoting Environmental Sustainability: A Case Study of Waste Management in Nigeria

**Agharese Lucia Ojelede**; *Technical Director, WSO National Office for Nigeria; HSE Program Manager, DeltaAfrik Engineering/Worley Parsons; Independent Eco-Consultant, En-pact Solutions Limited*

Environmental Sustainability is fundamental to the development of a nation for it is a key element to economic development. Degradation of the environment affects various resources with devastating impacts. This presentation focuses on waste management due to the growing concerns associated with exponential population increase in Nigeria. Government, Regulators, Consultants and other related stakeholders have a role to play to increase consciousness, awareness and knowledge about environmental issues in Nigeria.



## Pursuing a Case of Consistency: Developing Nations and State Standards for Campus Security & Safety Officers

**Stanley T. Skipworth**; *Director, Campus Safety, The Claremont Colleges, Claremont, California, USA*

The diverse ranges of required qualifications, standards and certifications for campus safety officers & campus security officers differs from state-to-state and often within the states themselves, as the regulations for employment are often significantly different from campus police officers to their non-sworn counterparts, most often they being among private institutions of higher education. The opportunity to pursue additional consistency and conformity to a set of standards for persons who serve as campus police officers as well as campus peace officers has seemingly never been greater. The convergence of greater expectations thrust upon college and university campuses to effectively deal with growing aggressions in the form of active assailants and greater numbers of reported incidents of violent crime such as sexual assault warrant a level of consistency that current and future students, faculty, staff and visitors to our nations college campuses should be able to experience and our peers among the local and regional law enforcement agencies in these communities who host our campuses should be able to build greater operational protocols upon.



## Safety Management Systems (SMS): The FAA's Upcoming Regulation and Strategies for Compliance

**William G. Thompson, IV**; Occupational Safety and Health/SMS Manager; Broward County Aviation Department, Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

Since August 2010, when the FAA published the first Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) regarding the implementing of Safety Management Systems (SMS) at airports, operators of these facilities have been struggling with the proposed concepts and how to best implement them. Coupled with this has been the challenge of how to achieve the desired results while dealing with the uniqueness of each individual airport environment, including its operational framework. With the publishing of the Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (SNPRM) on July 12, 2016, most industry experts anticipate that the Final Rule will be effective around January 1, 2017, with a full implementation requirement period of 24 months. This rapidly advancing time frame presents growing pressure on Airport Operators to identify and execute the best strategies for achieving the required compliance.



## Engaging Today's Young Workers Through Technology

**Douglas J. Webb**; Global Quality, Health, Safety & Environment Manager and Compliance Officer; Phoenix Technology Services; Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Creating a culture of safety with young workers should be a top priority for organizations. Like most communication strategies with a younger generation, providing multiple platforms and ways to receive and absorb information is critical to a successful and safe workplace.

Traditional approaches to safety management can be augmented through various technology platforms providing large scale impact while being much more cost effective. Integrating social media applications and mobile technology within your safety program can provide mediums that today's young workers are comfortable using every day. Through social media, an organization can interact in real time with their employees, create and share critical safety information, discuss ideas and interests and post pictures and videos that are easily disseminated throughout internal and external networks. Online safety training also provides access to workers without the constraints of instructors, location or schedules and can appeal to a variety of learning styles and preferences. Through the use of various smartphone applications, workers can access documents, perform inspections, verify training certifications, manage evacuations and countless other activities.

To engage our young workers, we can be innovative in how we implement policies and procedures, communicate requirements and train young employees.



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